

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 02510 01 OF 02 130717Z

ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 COME-00 IO-13 INT-05 DODE-00

ACDA-07 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EB-08 SP-02 L-03

SS-15 NSC-05 /079 W

-----130734Z 050084 /14

P 130636Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0190

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 CANBERRA 2510

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SENV, AS

SUBJECT: WEATHER MODIFICATION, AUSTRALIA -- INFORMAL TECHNICAL
TALKS

REF: STATE 077087

1. SUMMARY: SLO HAS DISCUSSED PROPOSED VISIT OF NOAA TEAM WITH J.P. LONERGAN, DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE (DS). AS DEPT IS AWARE, MANY ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL QUESTIONS REMAIN TO BE STUDIED AND RESOLVED (ESPECIALLY PROBLEM OF LIABILITY) BEFORE FORMAL AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED. EMBASSY AND DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE CONCUR IN PROPOSED VISIT PROVIDED IT FULLY UNDERSTOOD TALKS TO BE PURELY "PRELIMINARY, EXPLORATORY, TECHNICAL AND NON-COMMITTAL." DS WILL MAKE LOCAL HOTEL RESERVATIONS, BUT NOT RPT NOT LOCAL AIRLINE RESERVATIONS. EMBASSY SUGGESTS RESERVATIONS BE MADE IN WASHINGTON, BUT WILL MAKE THEM HERE IF TIME DOES NOT PERMIT. LOCAL ITINERARY PROPOSED, WITH SUGGESTED FLIGHT DETAILS. TENTATIVE CANBERRA PROGRAM SET FORTH. LONERGAN HAS WRITTEN APPROPRIATE STATE AND TERRITORIAL OFFICIALS SUGGESTING MEETINGS WITH TEAM. SEVERAL DEPARTMENTAL ACTIONS ARE REQUESTED. END SUMMARY.

2. SLO HAS DISCUSSED PROPOSED VISIT OF NOAA "EXPERT GROUP" WITH J.P. LONERGAN, FIRST ASSISTANT SECRETARY, POLICY DIVISION,
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DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE, WHO WILL PLAY KEY ROLE IN ANY GOA DECISION TO PROCEED WITH PROJECT STORMFURY - AUSTRALIA. LONERGAN HAS TOLD US THAT AS FAR AS GOA IS CONCERNED THERE STILL REMAIN MANY POLITICO-ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL QUESTIONS TO BE STUDIED AND RESOLVED (ESPECIALLY THE QUESTION OF LIABILITY) BEFORE GOA WOULD BE PREPARED NEGOTIATE AN EXCHANGE OF DIPLOMATIC NOTES OR A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

(MOU) WITH USG. GOA WOULD INSIST ON SUCH AN INSTRUMENT. NEGOTIATION OF SUCH A DOCUMENT WOULD NATURALLY INVOLVE DEPARTMENTS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (DFA), DEFENSE (ADOD), ENVIRONMENT, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (EHCD), AND TRANSPORT (DT), AS WELL AS CSIRO. LONERGAN ALSO SAID THAT EVEN AT THIS STAGE IT APPEARS CLEAR THAT THE AUTHORITIES OF NEW SOUTH WALES, QUEENSLAND, NORTHERN TERRITORY AND WEST AUSTRALIA WILL INSIST ON BEING VERY MUCH INVOLVED IN ANY FINAL DECISION TO UNDERTAKE PROJECT.

3. WITH THIS SAID, EMBASSY AND DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE CONCUR IN PROPOSED VISIT OF NOAA TEAM WITH THE PROVISIO THAT THERE BE FULL UNDERSTANDING THAT PROPOSED TALKS WILL BE PURELY "PRELIMINARY, EXPLORATORY, TECHNICAL AND NON-COMMITTAL."

4. WITH REFERENCE TO TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS MENTIONED IN PARA 4 OF REFTEL, WHILE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE WILLING MAKE REQUIRED HOTEL RESERVATIONS AND WILL SO INFORM US SHORTLY, IT HAS NO DESIRE BECOME INVOLVED IN MAKING AIRLINE RESERVATIONS, INVOLVING U.S. GTR'S, ETC. WE ASSUME GROUP WILL BE TRAVELING ON OFFICIAL TRAVEL ORDERS AND USING GTR'S AND SUGGEST THAT THEY PURCHASE AND MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR LOCAL TRAVEL AT STATE DEPARTMENT JOINT AIRLINES TICKET OFFICE (ACCORDING TO FOLLOWING PROPOSED ITINERARY) AT SAME TIME AS THEY PURCHASE TICKETS FOR INTERNATIONAL PORTIONS OF TRIP. IF TIME DOES NOT PERMIT FOREGOING, EMBASSY WOULD BE WILLING MAKE LOCAL AIRLINE RESERVATIONS HERE.

5. DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE PROPOSES FOLLOWING INTRA-COUNTRY
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ITINERARY:

MON. 18 APR. ARRIVE CANBERRA
TUE. 19 APR. CANBERRA
WED. 20 APR. 0800 DEP CANBERRA (ANSETT FLIGHT 381)
0855 ARR MELBOURNE
THU. 21 APR. MELBOURNE
FRI 22 APR. 0750 DEP MELBOURNE (ANSETT FLIGHT 6)
0900 ARR SYDNEY
SAT. 23 APR. SYDNEY
SUN. 24 APR. SYDNEY
MON. 25 APR. 1245 OR 1515 DEPT SYDNEY (ANSETT FLIGHT 16 OR 22)
1400 OR 1625 ARR BRISBANE
TUE. 26 APR. 1700 DEP BRISBANE (ANSETT FLIGHT 54)
1845 ARR TOWNSVILLE
WED. 27 APR. TOWNSVILLE
THU. 28 APR. 1135 DEP TOWNSVILLE (ANSETT FLIGHT 50/598)
1800 ARR DARWIN
FRI. 29 APR. DARWIN

SAT. 30 APR. 1700 DEP DARWIN (MAA/1/ FLIGHT 497)
2235 ARR PERTH
SUN. 1 MAY PERTH
MON. 2 MAY 1325 DEP PERTH (MAA/1/ FLIGHT 418)
1510 ARR LEARMONTH
TUE. 3 MAY 1425 DEP LEARMONTH (MAA/1/ FLIGHT 413)
1730 ARR PERTH
WED. 4 MAY 1210 DEP PERTH (ANSETT FLIGHT 209)
1720 ARR MELBOURNE
1925 DEP MELBOURNE (ANSETT FLIGHT 396)
2020 ARR CANBERRA
THU. 5 MAY CANBERRA

/1/ MAA: MACROBERTSON MILLER AIRLINES. ANSETT AIRLINES ACT
AS AGENT FOR MAA.

6. DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE UNDERSTANDS THAT GROUP NOW PLANNING
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ARRIVE CANBERRA ON MONDAY, APRIL 18, AS PLANNED STOP IN FIJI
HAS BEEN CANCELLED. PLEASE CONFIRM ARRIVAL TIME CANBERRA.
BASED ON ASSUMPTION OF APRIL 18 ARRIVAL, EMBASSY AND DEPARTMENT
OF SCIENCE PROPOSE FOLLOWING VERY TENTATIVE CANBERRA SCHEDULE:

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 COME-00 IO-13 INT-05 DODE-00
ACDA-07 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EB-08 SP-02 L-03
SS-15 NSC-05 BOOK-000 (ISO) W
-----140434Z 064177 /12

P 130636Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0191

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 CANBERRA 2510

MON., APR. 18: P.M. - EMBASSY BRIEFING
TUE., APR. 19: A.M. - GENERAL MEETING AT DEPARTMENT OF
SCIENCE TO BE CHAIRED BY SECRETARY, SIR HUGH ENNOR

TUE., APR. 19: NOON - WORKING LUNCHEON

TUE., APR. 19: P.M. - TALKS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF

DEPARTMENTS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENSE, TRANSPORT, ETC.

TUE., APR. 19: EVENING - SIR HUGH ENNOR TO HOST DINNER AT

WHICH HE PLANNING INVITE MEMBERS OF TEAM; LONERGAN; DR.

W.J. GIBBS, DIRECTOR OF METEOROLOGY; N.F. PARKINSON,

SECRETARY, DFA; DR. V. BURGMAN, CHAIRMAN, CSIRO AND EMBASSY
REPRESENTATIVE.

NOTE: SIR HUGH MAY NOT BE FREE ON EVENING OF APRIL 19. IF
SUCH PROVES TO BE CASE, HE WOULD EXPECT HOST ABOVE-MENTIONED
DINNER ON MAY 5 UPON GROUP'S RETURN TO CANBERRA.

7. LONERGAN HAS INFORMED US THAT HE HAS WRITTEN TO
APPROPRIATE STATE AND TERRITORIAL AUTHORITIES TO PROPOSE
MEETINGS WITH TEAM DURING THEIR STAYS IN SYDNEY, BRISBANE,
DARWIN AND PERTH. ALTHOUGH HE HAS YET TO HEAR FROM THESE
OFFICIALS, HE ASSUMES FAVORABLE RESPONSE WILL BE FORTHCOMING.

8. LONERGAN PLANS HAVE AN OFFICIAL FROM HIS OFFICE AND ONE
FROM BUREAU OF METEOROLOGY ACCOMPANY TEAM THROUGHOUT ITINERARY.

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OM ACTION REQUESTED: CONFIRM CANBERRA ARRIVAL TIME AND
WHETHER OR NOT LOCAL TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS TO BE MADE IN
WASHINGTON OR BY EMBASSY. IF LATTER, ALSO CONFIRM THAT ALL
MEMBERS WILL BE ON OFFICIAL TRAVEL ORDERS AND ARMED WITH
BLANK GTR'S. FINALLY, PLEASE CONFIRM NAME AND TITLE OF
POSSIBLE FOURTH TEAM MEMBER AS SOON AS KNOWN. PERCIVAL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ITINERARY, WEATHER MODIFICATION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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SAS ID: 2824952
Secure: OPEN
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Subject: WEATHER MODIFICATION, AUSTRALIA -- INFORMAL TECHNICAL TALKS
TAGS: SENV, OTRA, AS, US, NOAA, (LONERGAN, J P)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c06335a6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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